IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1.   (Previously Presented) A method of configuring a server computer having a connection pool, comprising:

    initializing a connection pool for a data source;

    generating heuristic override information, wherein the heuristic override information comprises a plurality of rules that specify a time period and a maximum number of connections for that time period;

    receiving a heuristic timer interrupt event;

    in response to the heuristic timer interrupt event:

        determining a current time of day;

        determining a connection current pool size; and

        adding new connections to the connection pool if the current connection pool size is less than the specified maximum number of connections associated with the current time of day.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the connection pool is initialized using a plurality of initial settings.

3.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the plurality of initial settings comprises a maximum number of connections.

4.   (Canceled)

5.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the heuristic override setting comprises a maximum number of connections.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the time period comprises at least one of a time of day, a day of week, and a day of year.

7.   (Previously Presented) A method of operating a server, comprising:

      initializing a connection pool with an initial maximum number of connections to a data source;

      applying heuristic information to modify the initial maximum number of connections, wherein the heuristic information comprises a maximum number of connections override and a time period associated with the override;

      in response to receiving a request to connect:

            detecting a current number of connections;

            determining a current time of day; and

            if the current number of connections is less than the modified maximum number of connections for the time period associated with the current time of day, creating a new connection.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

      detecting a connection having an unused time greater than a time-out value; and

      deleting the connection.

9.   (Canceled)

10.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 8, further comprising

in response to receiving a request to connect, resetting an unused time

associated with every available connections.

11.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising if the current

number of connections is greater than or equal to the maximum number of connections,

waiting for a connection to become available.

12.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising in response to

receiving a close connection request for a connection, indicating the connection as available.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the connection pool

comprises Java Database Connectivity connections.

14.   (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 13,~~ A method of operating a server,

comprising:

initializing a connection pool with an initial maximum number of connections

to a data source;

applying heuristic information to modify the initial maximum number of

connections, wherein the heuristic information comprises a maximum number

of connections override and a time period associated with the override;

in response to receiving a request to connect:

detecting a current number of connections;

determining a current time of day; and

resetting an unused time associated with every available connections;

if the current number of connections is less than the modified maximum number of connections for the time period associated with the current time of day, creating a new connection;

if the current number of connections is greater than or equal to the maximum number of connections, waiting for a connection to become available;

in response to receiving a close connection request for a connection, indicating the connection as available;

detecting a connection having an unused time greater than a time-out value, and in response, deleting the connection; and

wherein the connection pool comprises Java 2 Connector connections.

15-17.   (Cancelled)

18.   (Previously Presented) A method of managing a connection pool, the method comprising:

instructing a computing device to initialize a connection pool for a data source; and

instructing the computing device to modify the connection pool using heuristic override information, wherein the heuristic override information comprises a plurality of maximum number of connections overrides and a time period associated with each override.

19.   (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising generating the heuristic override information.

20.   (Canceled)

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21.   (Canceled)

22.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising, in response to the heuristic interrupt event, initializing a timeout value for all available connections in the connection pool

23.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising:

receiving a connection timer interrupt event; and

in response to the connection timer interrupt event:

determining a connection current pool size; and

destroying idle connections if the current connection pool size is greater than a specified minimum number of connections associated with the current time of day.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein modifying the connection pool using the heuristic override information comprises:

receiving a timer event;

in response to the timer event:

determining a current time;

determining a current number of connections; and

if the current number of connections greater than the specified maximum number of connections associated with the current time:

adding at least one new connections to the connection pool; and

initializing timeout values for all available connections in the connection pool.

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25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein modifying the connection pool using the heuristic override information comprises:

    receiving a connection timer event;

    in response to the connection timer event:

        determining a current time;

        determining a current number of connections;

        if a current number of connections is greater than the specified maximum associated with the current time:

            detecting one or more timed-out idle connection;

            destroying the one or more timed-out idle connections; and

        if a current number of connections is below a specified minimum associated with the current time:

            resetting time-out values for all of the connections in the pool.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the data source comprises a database.